

NOV 22 1957

2 Link Frank To Dominicans

By Morrey Dunle

Staff Reporter

Attorney John-Joseph Frank, accused of failing to register as an agent for the Dominican Republic and Generalissimo Rafael Trujillo, yesterday was linked to Dominican activities by two prosecution witnesses.

Frank, a 42-year-old former FBI agent and one-time lawyer for the Central Intelligence Agency, is being tried by a District Court jury on charges of violating the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Albert C. Fox, of Annandale, Va., a CIA employee, told the jury yesterday that he received a letter from Frank in the summer of 1955 in which Frank "stated he was not doing legal work for the Dominican Embassy in Washington."

The witness said Frank was then acting as his agent in the rental of his home.

Tells of 1956 Talk

Myles J. Ambrose, assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury in charge of law enforcement activities, testified Frank indicated to him in January, 1956, that he represented Dominican "government interests" in the Dominican newspaper El Caribe.

Ambrose said he was administrative assistant to the United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York when Frank visited his office on January 9, 1956.

Frank told him that German E. Ornes, erstwhile Trujillo collaborator who is now a political exile, had absconded with \$14,000 of El Caribe money, Ambrose said. He added that Frank requested an investigation of the matter.

"My understanding was that he (Frank) was representing government interests," Ambrose told the jury and Judge James R. Kirkland. He said he declined to prosecute Ornes after he investigated the matter and found that Ornes was the principal stockholder in El Caribe.

Secretary Testifies

Sara T. Newcomer, 3051 Idaho ave. n.w., another prosecution witness testified yesterday. Mrs. Newcomer was secretary to Frank from January to April, 1955, and Defense Attorney Edward L. Carey vigorously opposed her testifying on matters in Frank's law office while she worked for him.

Kirkland ruled that Mrs. Newcomer could not testify about such matters because this would be a violation of the attorney-client privilege. Kirkland told reporters later that a secretary is an agent of the lawyer and the privileged relationship between the lawyer and the client also covers the secretary.

Earlier yesterday, Ornes, former editor of El Caribe, testified that there is "no freedom of the press in the Dominican Republic."

The trial will resume at 1:30 p. m. today.

FOIAb3b

CPYRGHT